## 2010 Winter Trade Manager Visits

Armando Orellana, Director of the Idaho-Mexico Trade Office, visited Idaho March 1-12, 2010. Armando met with companies in the Treasure Valley region as well as in eastern Idaho. Mr. Orellana testified in front of both the Idaho State Senate and House on issues affecting trade and cultural relations between Idaho and Mexico. Mexico was Idaho's top export destination for agricultural products in 2009, and Mr. Orellana looks forward to continuing to increase Idaho exports in the future.

Director, Eddie Yen, of the Idaho-Asia Trade Office in Taiwan visited Idaho February 28<sup>th</sup> to March 9<sup>th</sup>. During his stay, Mr. Yen visited with fourteen Commerce companies that included a wide range of industries, such as renewable energy, mining, education, and high tech. Mr. Yen also met with more than eleven companies that are covered under the Idaho Department of Agriculture. Depending on the companies, Mr. Yen fulfills a variety of roles which include finding foreign funding, foreign partners and/or foreign buyers. The Department of Commerce is working with the Idaho-Asia Trade Office to participate, among other trade related events, in conferences and trade shows to highlight and create leads for Idaho companies. Arranging face to face meetings and understanding Idaho products and services is essential for Mr. Yen in order to represents Idaho companies successfully in Taiwan.